

K3 Readiness Guide

K3 Skills

Young children develop at such different rates, it is almost impossible to create a checklist of skills that is essential to start K3. However, there are some behaviors that are conducive to group learning for young children. It is important that these skills of K3 readiness are in place as the school year begins.

Applicants must:

- Be fully potty trained (no pull-ups at school)
- Be able to communicate their needs to the teacher
- Be able to follow simple directions from the teacher
- Be able to eat snacks and lunch at a table without assistance
- Be emotionally ready to separate from parents to work and play in a structured academic setting

Applicant must be 3 years old on or before September 1st.

Preparedness Activities

We want your children to have a strong start to K3. There are a number of ways to help your little one prepare for this important transition before K3 starts.

Encourage Independence:

Let your child do the following activities independently:

- No pull-ups or other disposable undergarments worn during the day or at naptime
- Be able to communicate the need to go to the restroom
- Be able to use the restroom without any assistance
- Go to the restroom regularly
- Wash their hands
- Wipe their nose
- Cover their mouth/nose when coughing or sneezing
- Open lunch /snack containers and backpacks
- Manipulate simple clothing fasteners

Set home routines:

- Bath time
- Family meals
- Bedtime
- Clean-up time

Encourage social skills through active play:

- Learning to share
- Taking turns
- Playing with peers
- Pretend-play
- Following directions
- Learning please, thank you, and excuse me

Encourage Communication:

Strengthen communication skills by doing the following:

- Ask simple questions
- Talk about daily routines
- Identify items in rooms of the house
- Talk about what is for lunch or dinner

Encourage Concentration Skills:

Cultivate these skills with the following activities:

- Pretend to read picture books
- Work dot-to-dot games and puzzles
- Build with building blocks/Legos
- Play memory games
- Practice simple 2-step directions

Grow Emotional Readiness:

- Encourage expression of emotions
- Help child to express and manage emotions in a healthy manner